May-June 2020 Engagement Summary

September 2020

This is a brief overview of the full engagement summary, which can be found at cvilleplanstogether.com/document-media-center. Questions about this document? Please send an email to engage@cvilleplanstogether.com, or use the comment form on the website.

Summary of Process and What We Heard

Overview & Purpose

Cville Plans Together is an opportunity for the community to actively participate in updating the future vision for the city, with a focus on equity and affordability.

From mid-May through June 2020, the goals of community engagement efforts were to:

- **Share information** about the project process.
- **Make connections** in the Charlottesville community and develop partnerships.
- **Receive initial input** related to the Comprehensive Plan update, including the Affordable Housing Strategy.

This document provides a brief overview of activities and input received.

Community input opportunities included…

A community survey (available in English and Spanish, and in web and paper form).

Webinars to provide a project overview and answer questions.

Small-group discussions held via Zoom/phone.

Toll-free phone line to record input.

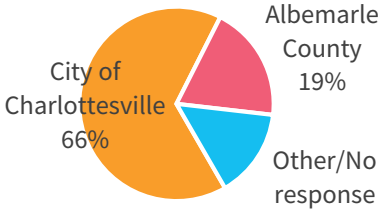
Participants included…

1,172 **survey** respondents

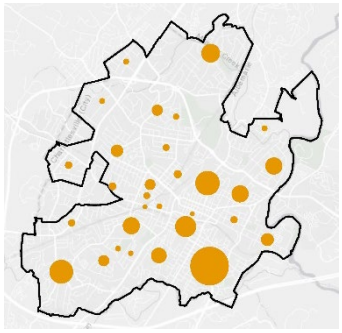
About 130 **webinar** attendees at three events

220+ **small-group discussion** participants, in 25 events

Survey Responses By Location



Survey Responses By Neighborhood



Survey & Discussion Topics with High Levels of Interest

- **Housing affordability** throughout the city, at all levels, for renters and homeowners
- **Safe, strong neighborhoods**, for all
- **Racial equity**, including gentrification, displacement, and of historic land use decisions
- **Strengthening existing partnerships and coordination** with the County, UVA, area non-profits, and other organizations
- **Land use** and **urban design** elements, including the potential for increased density, allowing different types of housing, and streamlining the development process
- **Food justice**
- **Community safety** budgeting and equity
- **Walkability/bikeability and transit** improvements (including regional transit)
- **Community engagement**, including transparency and building trust
- **Integration of climate goals** and energy efficiency
- **Park & park connectivity** enhancement
- **Healthcare** accessibility, including mental health supports
- **Wages and job training**
- **Small business support**
- **Connections between topics** and consideration of combined solutions

Quick Facts from the 1172 Survey Responses

83% of people said **addressing housing needs** was a "most critical" priority.

On the topic of housing affordability, **79%** said that **racial equity** was a "most critical" priority, and **73%** said the same about **rental affordability**.

Community health, ***economy & jobs***, *and* ***education*** *were each marked as "most critical" priorities by about 65% of respondents.* ***Housing location*** *(64%),* ***housing supply*** *(63%), and* ***displacement/gentrification*** *(62%) were also top "most critical" priorities.*

In reviewing how ***different demographics groups*** *responded to priority questions, there are many similarities but also some key differences. For example:*

Marked homeownership as a "most critical" issue:

• 76% of Black or African American respondents • 74% of Hispanic or Latinx respondents	vs	• 50% of White or Caucasion respondents • 50% of Asian or Asian American respondents
• 63% of current renters	vs	• 47% of current homeowners

Marked community safety and services as a "most critical" issue:

• 69% of Black or African American respondents	vs	• 36% of White or Caucasian respondents
• 65% of people with household incomes under $29,000/year	vs	• 30% of people with household incomes over $100,000/year